

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club **WIRELESS**



2005



A FIELD DAY LOOK AT YEARS PAST

***Ed, W1EJ, and Steve, K2IYQ, at the 1997 VOMARC Field Day
Operation***

FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL

It's Field Day again. This is the

one event of the year where the club comes together for a single purpose. Is it to exercise our emergency HF capabilities, get a lot points in the contest, or have some fun? For me, it's a mixture of all of the above. Every year we learn more about our abilities to set up a functioning HF Comm site. This year we will be able to use our new ICOM 718. If you have any thoughts on new equipment to try or some antenna to try, let me know.

As far as the contest goes, it would be nice to be able to turn in a score, so we need to get our act together as far as accurate and safe logging goes. Joel, NN6J, has sent me a logging program that can be networked. If there are some computer networking experts out there, I could use some help to evaluate this. Otherwise, we can use the same logging software we have used in the past. If this is the case, we need to develop a plan to make sure we don't loose any Q's and secondly avoid dupes.

But the big thing is getting the group together and having some fun, so I hope to see you all at our Maxwell Park location.

Thanks to all who helped out with the Hit the Road Jack race/walk, especially, Eileen, who managed the group. We used here mobile radio in her car in the cross-band repeat mode and it worked out very well. Everyone on the course had good communications.

This month's meeting will be at McDougal Hall at the SDC.

Some good news on the BPL front. The Texas legislature tried to pass a bill that would promote BPL in that state but it failed to make it. I also took this from the ARRL newsletter, "Nebraska's unicameral legislature has passed a bill supported by telecommunications interests to ban "agencies, political subdivisions and public power suppliers" from providing any broadband, Internet, telecommunications or video services. This would include broadband over power line (BPL). The "Unicam," as it's called, approved the measure, LB 645, by a vote of 37-8-4." Even with these two items of good news, the battle is not over. A letter or e-mail to our Congress persons would be helpful and, if you can, send some money to the ARRL.

The HF 20-meter band has been pretty good late at night. I worked Tahiti on PSK-31 with great copy both ways. This is one mode where low power and marginal antennas do just fine. The FO station was using a dipole.

That's about it for this month. Please don't forget to get on the air and make some QRM.

73, Jim

VOMARC MINUTES May 18, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:42PM.

Jim warned about the possibility of a Flood watch.

The minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's report: There was \$2275.42 in the bank on April 31. We have expenses for the Hamfest but expect to net about \$600. We also have the value of the many radios and other equipment in our inventory. Ken asked for and was given approval to sell some of the excess equipment for the club.

ACS: Police Chief Gurney asked for help from the club to assist the City with night time (2200-0400) citizen patrols to report burglaries and other such situations. It was agreed that this is not an appropriate club activity but individuals could volunteer. Eileen is heading the "Hit the Road Jack" run and is seeking volunteers. We need volunteers to head the "4th of July Parade" and the "Vintage Festival". Call Ken if you will volunteer.

County ACS wants monthly activation of the new equipment at the Police station for the County Monday ACS net.

Return ACS vest to Ken if you are no longer a member of ACS or know someone who has one and is no longer a member. No date for new ACS badges.

SuitSat report: Things are moving along.

Radio Tubes: Need to schedule session to sort tubes.

Solar Panels: Jan will contact Scott for help.

VE Session: 14 candidates at Ham Fest. Three didn't pass. One new General. One new Extra and the rest passed the Technician test. There was approval given for the purchase (approx. \$100) for 2 signs to help direct people to tests at McDougal Hall.

Hamfest: Darrel reported that it went well and the club will make about \$600. The swap meet made about \$190. We had good local coverage in the local newspapers but none in the regional papers. The Emergency Coordinators was a good addition to Hamfest and was well received. The Secretary was directed to send letter to the EC people thanking them for their participation and asking them if they would like to come again. There was a discussion of awarding prizes by various means to attempt to keep people at the event longer. There was also discussion of publicity to bring in a larger attendance.

Field Day: Jim is working on location approval from the County for the same place as last year. There was discussion about automating contact logs so we can turn them in to ARRL for credit for the club. There was talk of networking more than one computer with a

common logging program to make the process more efficient. Andrew can provide cables; Darrel has a router; and Joel has the logging software for this event.

Other Business: Jim met with school officials about the advantage of Ham radio for emergency communications. He may get a teacher to become a Ham to help educate kids on the benefit of the hobby. He is also going to be on the radio to discuss ham radio.

The meeting was adjourned about 9:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Bush, AE6FQ

GET YOUR RADIO LICENSE IN ONE DAY!

Sunday, June 26, 2005
8:30 am - 4:00 pm
San Francisco County Fair
Building - Rec Room
9th Avenue and Lincoln Way
Ample free parking. Great lunch restaurants nearby.
Bring 2 IDs (one with picture), a pencil and
\$20 in cash for study materials and test OR
\$14 for test only (general, extra, Morse tests available too).

Questions to dave1@wcf.com or call 415-731-7793.

CALENDAR

Upcoming events you might be interested in are:

Meetings, 7:30 pm (1930 local):
May 18, McDougal Hall
June 15
July 20
August 17
September 21
October 19
November 23
December Xmas party to be determined

Club Breakfasts, 9:30 am (0930 local):
July 2
August 6
September 3
October 1
November 5
December 3

Field Day: June 25 and 26

VE Sessions, at McDougal Hall, 9 am:
August 6
November 12

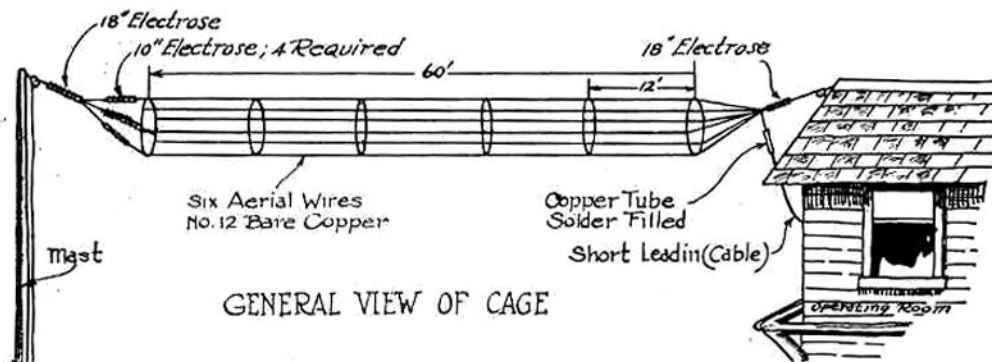
Nets:
ACS Monday evenings 1930 local (7:30 pm), 146.205 MHz +600/ PL 88.5 Hz
VOMARC Wednesday evenings, except meeting night, 1930 (7:30 pm), 145.35 MHz -600/ PL 88.5 Hz

Hamfests/Conventions:
San Francisco Section Convention,
Pacificon, San Ramon, October 14 thru 16

Contests:
IARU HF World Championship, July 9 & 10
ARCI PSK-31 Sprint, September 11

ARRL VHF QSO Party,
September 10 -11
ARCI Fall QRP QSO, October 22 -
23
ARRL CW Sweepstakes,
November 5 - 7

ARRL Phone Sweepstakes, Nov.
19 -21
ARRL 10 meter Contest,
December 10 -11
Straight Key Night, December
31, Jan 1



The cage antenna attained prominence in the post-WW I period. This drawing is from an article on the cage by 1AE in the October 1920 issue.

IMPORTANT TABLE OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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|---|---|
| 1. Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter = Eskimo Pi | 10. 453.6 graham crackers = 1 pound cake |
| 2. 2,000 pounds of Chinese soup = Won ton | 11. 1 million microphones = 1 megaphone |
| 3. 1 millionth of a mouthwash = 1 microscope | 12. 1 million bicycles = 1 megacycle |
| 4. Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement = 1 bananosecond | 13. 365.25 days = 1 unicycle |
| 5. 365.25 days of drinking low calorie beer = 1 Lite year | 14. 2,000 mockingbirds = two kilomockingbirds |
| 6. 16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone = 1 Rod Serling | 15. 10 cards = 1 decacard |
| 7. Half a large intestine = 1 semicolon | 16. 52 cards = 1 deckacard |
| 8. 1,000,000 aches = 1 megahurtz | 17. 1 kilogram of falling figs = 1 fig Newton |
| 9. Shortest distance between two jokes = a straight line | 18. 1,000 grams of wet socks = 1 literhosen |
| | 19. 1 millionth of a fish = 1 microfiche |
| | 20. 1 trillion pins = 1 terrapin |
| | 21. 10 rations = 1 decaration |

- 22. 100 rations = 1 C-ration
- 23. 2 monograms = 1 diagram
- 24. 8 nickels = 2 paradigms
- 25. 2.4 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital = 1 I.V. League

Thanks to Steve, KD6KVY

House Resolution 230 "A Fair Request," ARRL President Says (Jun 6, 2005)

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, says House Resolution 230 (HRes 230) represents "a fair request" to the FCC and deserves the support of the US House of Representatives. Sponsored by Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas, House Resolution 230 calls on the FCC to comprehensively evaluate BPL's interference potential incorporating "extensive public review and comment," then to "reconsider and review" its new BPL rules in the light of that public input. Renewing his call for League members to contact their congressional representatives to sign on as co-sponsors of the non-binding measure, Haynie said Ross's resolution only asks the FCC to do what it should have done in the first place regarding BPL.

SALE PAGES

We haven't had anything come in from the membership for our sale pages. If you have some surplus gear that you would like

to sell, email a description and price to yer editor.

Yer Editor, wd6bor@vom.com

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 9 EDITION 6

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club - W6AJF

Frank C. Jones - W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jim Hill, K6UUW - President

Dan Sorrick, KG6LJN- Vice-President

Joan Brady, W6WXU - Secretary

Ken McTaggart, N6KM - Treasurer

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT, Membership Chair

Mike Miller, WB6TMH - Radio Officer

Ken McTaggart, N6KM - ACS

Jan Bush, AE6FQ - Webmeister

Joel Nadler, NN6J - VE Liaison

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR - Editor

Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC.

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month, alternating between McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, Eldridge, and the Sonoma Fire Station, 630 2nd Street West, Sonoma. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE:

<http://www.vomarc.org/>

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is on 144.910 as "SNV1EC". "SNVGW" can be used as a gateway digipeating on 223.66 MHz. The node name is "SNVND".

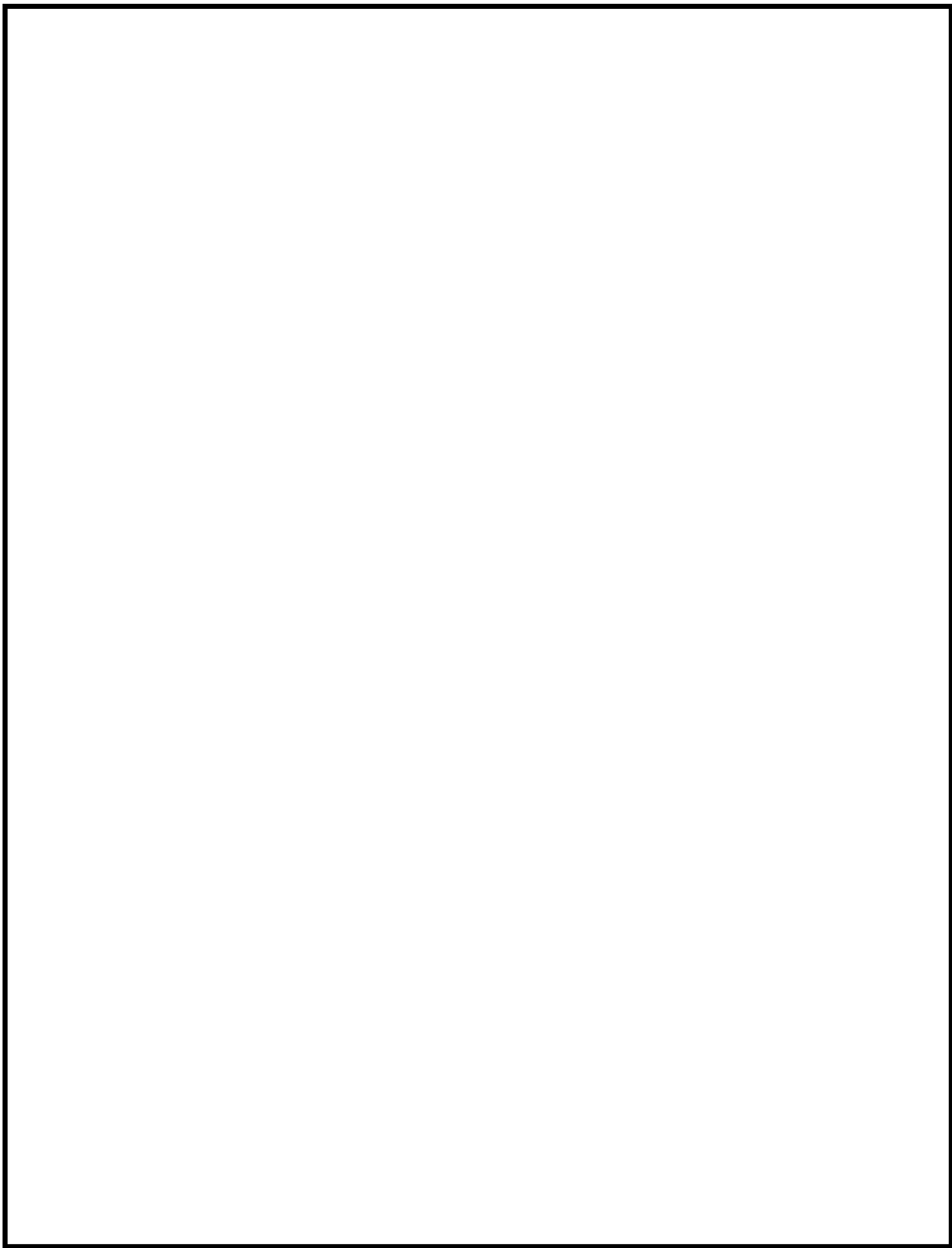
CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Issa's Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

wd6bor@vom.com

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.

175 First Street West
Sonoma, CA 95476



**Valley of the Moon
ARC
1496 Nut Tree Lane
Sonoma, CA 95476**

**NOTICE!!! THE NEXT VOMARC MEETING IS
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, AT 7:30 P.M. AT MCDOUGAL
HALL AT THE SONOMA DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER
CU THERE!**

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP

VOMARC 2005 Membership Dues: \$15/year individual; \$5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC: \$ _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. It tells you when your VOMARC dues are due. Dues may be mailed to Ken N6KM, or Jim K6UUW, 1496 Nut Tree Lane, Sonoma, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. If there is any mistake, please do not shoot the messenger; email Eileen KG6QNT at Eileen@vom.com. Your check should be made payable to:

VOMARC